

Two New User's for Pattern Y5

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The *Catalog of United States Perfins* identifies the user of pattern **Y5** as the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Detroit MI. This perfins was used from 1926 thru 1967. The Detroit YMCA is located at 2020 Witherell Street in downtown Detroit.

In my quest to find all the U.S. college perfins, I recently purchased some perfins covers from a club member. In addition to the college covers, the 2 strips shown below were included. Each has a different Detroit college/institute corner card bearing a stamp with the **Y5** perfins. This was a little confusing because they were not from the YMCA.

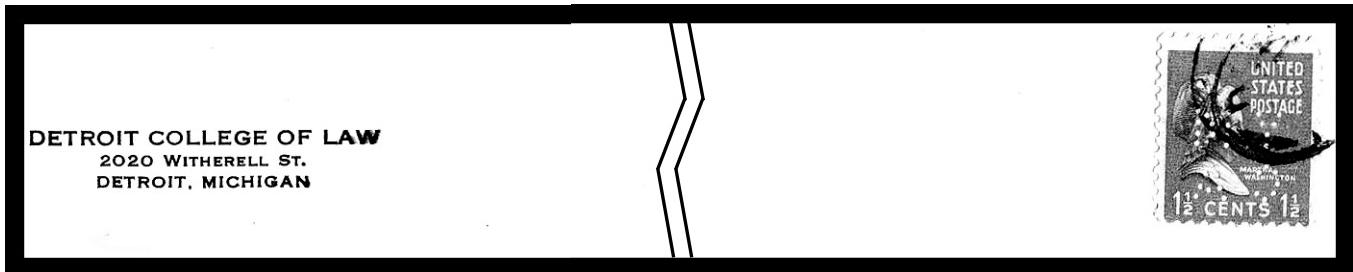
So off to the internet I went... I first tried the Detroit College of Law. This search revealed: "The college opened in 1891 with 69 students and was incorporated in 1893. It is the oldest continuously operating independent law school in the United States. The college's first home was in the Detroit College of Medicine building from 1892-1913. From 1913-1924 it was housed in the YMCA building. In 1935, the college broke ground for a new building at 130 E. Elizabeth St." [Editor's note: There is no mention concerning the location or status of this college between 1924 and 1935.]

"The college became affiliated with Michigan State University in 1995 to take advantage of enhanced facilities and association with a Big Ten institution. It relocated to East Lansing, Michigan in 1997, when the original building was demolished to make way for Comerica Park".

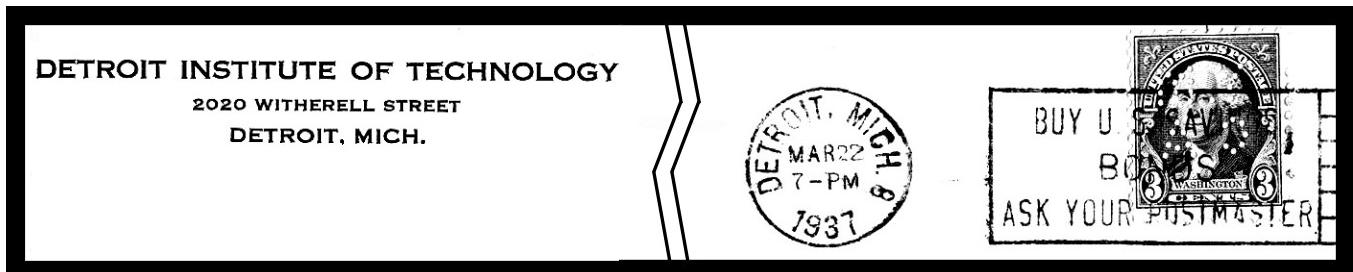
The college must have kept some of its ties to the YMCA after it moved into the Elizabeth St. building because the strip is franked with a Martha Washington Prexy, issued in 1938.

Next I searched for the Detroit Institute of Technology at the same address. Here is what I found... "The Detroit Institute of Technology (Detroit Tech) was a vocational college in Detroit, Michigan that closed in 1982. First called the Association Institute, the school was founded in 1891 by the Detroit YMCA, formalizing its evening adult education program; the later name was adopted in 1918."

So there you have it, a little Detroit history that connects 2 institutions of higher learning with the YMCA. Steve Endicott, the new U.S. Catalog Editor will add these two new users for pattern **Y5** in the next Additions & Corrections to the U.S. Perfins Catalog.



Detroit College of Law "strip" with pattern Y5
(Used after College moved to a new building from the Detroit YMCA building)



Detroit Institute of Technology "strip" with pattern Y5